

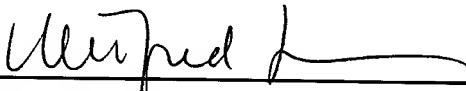
Remarks

The previously pending claims have been amended to correct typographical errors and correct antecedent references. Additional dependent claims are also presented for examination.

Please charge the required fee, if any, to Pennie & Edmonds LLP Deposit Account No. 16-1150 (order no.9840-0041-999). A copy of this sheet is enclosed for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

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**EXHIBIT A:
MARKED-UP VERSION OF THE AMENDED CLAIMS**

**U.S. PATENT APPLICATION SERIAL NO.09/552,576
(ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 9840-0041-999)**

9. (Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein said establishing step further comprises the step of [converting] causing said facultative heterotrophic bacteria and methane bacteria [into] to produce a gaseous emission.
10. (Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein said establishing step further comprises [converting] causing said facultative heterotrophic bacteria and methane bacteria [into] to produce a gaseous emission comprising about 70% methane.
15. (Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of gas capturing, said gas capturing comprising the steps of:
- collecting a gas emitted from said methane fermentation zone in a submerged gas collector;
 - transporting said gas [through] by way of a central mast pipe; and
 - collecting said gas in a gas cap.
23. (Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein said establishing step includes [establishing] creating a stable microbiological methane fermentation zone comprising facultative heterotrophic bacteria and methane bacteria.
24. (Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein said establishing step further comprises [converting] causing said facultative heterotrophic bacteria and methane bacteria [into] to produce a gaseous emission.
25. (Amended) The method of claim 24, wherein said establishing step further comprises [converting] causing said facultative heterotrophic bacteria and methane bacteria [into] to produce a gaseous emission comprising about 70% methane.

26. (Amended) The method of claim 18 further comprising:
collecting a gas emitted from said methane fermentation zone in a submerged gas collector;
transporting said gas [through] by way of a central mast pipe; and
collecting said transported gas in a gas cap.